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DRIVE SHAFT COUPLING

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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

10 Disclosed is a torque-transmitting coupling assembly and method, as well as
flexible surgical reamers having such assemblies. The reamers employ a fitting
with radially flexible member, e.g., a split collet or a super-elastic collar that
receives an elongated tubular shaft of super-elastic alloy. A compression sleeve is
applied to the collet, in one embodiment, while the collar is located within a
counter-bore of the fitting in another embodiment. Relative motion between the
15 shaft, fitting and collet (or collar) induces a super-elastic activation in the shaft to
form the desired coupling.